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means. Suffering is described under the captions, Inebriety, Female Degradation and Subjection, War, Poverty, The Prison System and Flesh-Eating. Christianity is indicated as the ally of Customal Wrong and thus is powerless to help. The book ends with a plea for a new religion of humanity that will devote itself to the problem of prevention and elimination. The main contentions are socially sound, notwithstanding certain extreme views with which many social students will not agree.

J. P. L.

POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENTAL PROBLEMS

HILL, JOHN PHILIP. *The Federal Executive*. Pp. viii, 269. Price, \$2.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin Company, 1916.

This book is the outgrowth of a series of lectures, delivered by the author in several colleges. Its aim is to "assist in the understanding of the creation, development, organization, and functions of the federal executive," using the latter term to include the President and the executive departments. After a general survey of the position of the executive in the federal government, the establishment and growth of the various departments are traced. The status of the heads of departments as a cabinet and the present organization of the separate departments are next considered. A brief chapter indicates the influence of some of the presidents upon the executive departments, and a concluding chapter suggests probable future developments. The author recommends the establishment in the near future of departments of Education, of Transportation, and of Interstate Trade, together with considerable coördination of the present somewhat chaotic distribution of functions. For some reason he fails to note the need for a department of Colonial affairs. The book, while adding little that is new, is a valuable compilation of information. Like most books of its kind, however, it fails to give any adequate idea of the actual working of the administration.

R. G. G.

Index Digest of State Constitutions. (Prepared by Legislative Drafting Research Fund.) Pp. vii, 1546. New York: New York State Convention Commission, 1915.

MUNRO, W. B. *Principles and Methods of Municipal Administration*. Pp. xi, 491. Price, \$2.25. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1916.

This volume is intended to supplement the author's *Government of American Cities* which dealt with the organization of city government in the United States. The present volume deals with functions rather than frame work. It aims to show how various city departments are organized, what work they have to do and what problems they usually encounter in getting things done. After an introductory chapter the author considers the following branches of administration: City Planning, Streets, Water Supply, Waste Disposal and Sewerage, Public Lighting, Police Administration, Fire Prevention and Fire Protection, School Administration, Municipal Finance.

In his method of treatment the author has tried to steer a middle course between a general survey of the most elementary character, and a technical